



## COLLECTION

### Of the Documents which appeared in the public papers, in relation to Dr. Sewall's drawings on the human stomach, &c.

The anonymous article which led to the discussion of the merits of Doct. Sewall's drawings of the human stomach in the public papers was as follows :

FOR THE EVENING JOURNAL.

MR. WEED : The writer of this communication does not question the wisdom or benevolence of the gentlemen who have signed Mr. Delavan's petition to the Legislature for an appropriation to purchase Dr. Sewall's pathological essay and drawings, neither does he wish to come into conflict with the medical men who have endorsed them. My object is merely to suggest to the Legislature an enquiry, which I think they ought to make before granting the prayer of the petition. The drawings are intended to exhibit the effect of alcoholic drinks upon the human stomach, from the moderate to the intemperate use of them ; and so to prove that while a moderate indulgence produces a decidedly injurious effect on the stomach, uniformly to be detected in dissection, intemperance increases the injury till the climax is attained in delirium tremens and cancer. If they do not prove this they prove nothing to the purpose, and are useless. The enquiry to be made is, do they offer any proof whatever of these facts. Dr. Sewall quotes from Dr. Beaumont to prove that the appearances exhibited in his drawings are produced by alcoholic drinks, but in this very paragraph Dr. B. says that " eating voraciously or to excess : swallowing food coarsely masticated, or too fast ; &c. &c., almost invariably produce similar effects, if repeated a number of times in close succession." In another place Dr. B. says " in the application of aliment the action of the vessels is increased, the color heightened : and the virricular motions excited." Other quotations might be made, but these are sufficient to show that so far as Dr. B. is authority, the same effects represented in Dr. Sewall's drawings as proceeding from the influence of alcohol alone may be produced by various other causes, even by our ordinary food. In the April No. for 1841 of the British and Foreign Medical Review,

also abundant evidence is to be found that the most distinguished pathologists differ about the appearance of the stomach in a state of health.

A careful examination of the certificates given by Physicians to Mr. Delavan will show that they do not really testify to the truth or accuracy of the drawings as exhibitions of *disease induced by alcohol*. The only thing said by any of them which appears to bear on this point is, that they have seen such appearances in the stomach of the drunkard ; which may be very true, but yet nothing to the purpose. The point at issue is, are such diseased stomachs produced by alcohol. A man may have a stomach diseased to any extent though he had never drunk a drop of alcohol in his life. Persons of perfectly temperate habits have died with cancerous stomachs. It may be true that a tendency to such disease is increased by the use of alcohol, but I do not believe that any pathologist could be found who would affirm that any use of alcohol would produce a cancer of the stomach when there was no predisposition to that disease, or who would venture to decide by the appearance of a stomach whether the owner of it had been a tee-totaller or a temperate drinker. I have always had such opinions of the drawings as may be inferred from these remarks upon them, but would not have ventured to express them in this way even now, if the faculty of our Medical College, in whose talents and acquirements this community at least has entire confidence, had not led the way by excluding them from their Museum on the ground that they are not what they profess to be ; and they will be honored and sustained for their independence and decision. If these drawings be true exhibitions of *alcoholic disease*, let the Legislature help to circulate them if they see fit.— But if they are not, let them remember the ridiculous position in which a former Legislature of this State placed themselves by appropriating a thousand dollars to purchase the famous recipe for the cure of hydrophobia, and profit by the recollection.



Messrs. EDITORS.

*Gentlemen*—Several communications having appeared in your respective papers, in which my name has (without any act of mine inviting thereto) been brought before the public, you will, I trust, permit me to make such remarks as seem called for in relation to myself—which I shall endeavor to do without interfering with any points in controversy, between the writers themselves.

And I assure the public that the appeal to the Legislature for placing Dr. Sewall's drawings on board our vessels, did *not* originate with me, but with one of the petitioners, a gentleman of New-York, extensively engaged in shipping, and untiring in his efforts to benefit the mariner, through whose suggestions the under writers and friends of seamen generally in that city, united in a petition to the Legislature—which petition is called (I know not why) "*Mr. Delavan's petition*," by the anonymous writer, whose gratuitous advice to the Legislature, has led to so much discussion.

For the medical gentlemen, who have taken different sides in relation to the merits of the colossal prints, I entertain no other than sentiments of esteem and respect. Dr. McNaughton is my family physician when in town, and Dr. Hun has been occasionally employed by myself. It is due to Drs. Beck and McNaughton to say, that they were among the first members of the faculty who publicly bore their testimony against the use of distilled liquors, and that too at a time when no small degree of moral courage was necessary to the performance of such a duty—and I am personally indebted to them for furnishing me more recently with their published opinions in regard to the necessity of total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors as a beverage on the part of reclaimed inebriates.

And I am truly gratified to see that Dr. Hun has in his recent publication, avowed himself a friend of the cause itself—and that Dr. McNaughton has now added to his former testimony in favor of temperance, his further testimony in favor of abstinence, in the words following:—

"In conclusion let me add, that although I cannot approve of every measure recommended for the furtherance of temperance, that I am friendly to the cause; that I consider the daily use of alcoholic drinks unnecessary to people in health; that to many it is injurious and dangerous; and that the habitual use of even the mildest, should be discountenanced."

Dr. Emmons says, "As long ago as 1822, I banished from my house every kind of liquid which can intoxicate, and on two occasions only since that

period have they been introduced except as a medicine; and here I say, openly and publicly, that I regret that even in these two instances I suffered wine, as a drink, to stand upon my table."

It gives me great pleasure to transcribe, as I am sure it will give to many others to read, this united testimony of members of the Albany Medical College in favor of temperance. And now as these writers and myself are agreed as to the goodness of the cause, and only differ as to one of the means to be employed in furthering the same, the discussion must be regarded as a discussion among friends, and may therefore with the greatest reason be conducted in the spirit of kindness and conciliation. I regret indeed to differ, even in relation to measures with any friend of temperance, especially with professional gentlemen of such standing and such character, and I trust they will do me the justice to believe, that in what I have to say, I am influenced by a sincere desire to make to them a satisfactory explanation of the course I have pursued in relation to these prints; an explanation which I should have greatly preferred to make personally, and privately, and which I should certainly have done, had I known that it was necessary, previous to being personally and publicly assailed by the anonymous writer already alluded to.

The idea of making use of prints of the human stomach, as diseased by the use of alcohol, in the furtherance of the Temperance cause, be such use wise or not, did not originate with me; but with members of the medical profession.

Some years since while dining with a distinguished physician in New York, the subject of conversation being Temperance, he made use of the following emphatic language: "*Get the drawings of the human stomach as affected by intoxicating drinks, and exhibit them to the world, and your work is done up.*" About the same time Dr. Ives also, a distinguished Physician of New York, expressed himself in a similar manner and promised to furnish me with said drawings, from specimens furnished by his own dissections. Death prevented the accomplishment of his benevolent intentions. Having had occasion afterwards to address Dr. Sewall on a different subject, he incidentally remarked in his reply, that his attention had for thirty years been directed to diseases occasioned by the use of intoxicating liquors; and that during his dissections he had caused drawings to be made of the human stomach in the successive stages of the disease thus induced, which drawings were at my disposal. The profits of which to be devoted to the furtherance of the Temperance cause.



This offer I accepted, and the series of stomachs from that of the drunkard to that of the drunkard after death by delirium tremens, were forwarded. On communicating this fact to some of the friends of temperance, and among others to Chancellor Walworth, he suggested the addition to the series, of the stomach of the temperate drinker, as Dr. Nott afterwards did the farther addition of the stomach in its natural and healthy state, as a *standard stomach* with which the others might be compared and the morbid changes in question thus made apparent even to persons unacquainted with physiology.

These additions to the series were accordingly made, the healthy stomach being furnished by Dr. Horner of Philadelphia, as will appear by his certificate.

Concerning these prints two questions have been raised :

The 1st, respects their accuracy ; the 2d, their fitness to be employed as a means in furthering the Temperance cause.

It is necessary here to state that these prints are of two kinds. The one the size of the human stomach, the other of the human stomach greatly enlarged.

The small prints are bound up with Dr. Sewall's history of the Pathology of drunkenness. The larger ones, usually called the colossal stomachs are on separate sheets ; were originally intended for the use of Lecturers, and are so much enlarged that when illuminated, the general expression will be apparent to a spectator in the remote part of a large room.

Dr. Hun says, "I do not know to how many Physicians Mr. Delavan has applied for certificates of the accuracy of the plates, but I have no doubt if he would publish the list of those who refused, the weight of the certificates he has obtained would be somewhat diminished."

Now I assure Dr. Hun that though I sent these prints to numerous Physicians and other professional and scientific men, from many of whom I received testimonials in their favor, I never received an intimation from any quarter, previous to the publication of the anonymous writer in question, that the small plates (*which are the prints proposed to be furnished to seamen*) or that the history of the Pathology of drunkenness which accompanied them, were not correct.

As to the enlarged prints which have occasioned this discussion, I admit, though it had escaped me, that Dr. Nott, some two or three months since, re-

marked to me in conversation that one of the colors (carmine) in the enlarged stomachs of some of the late impressions was not correct, and that I afterwards received an intimation from Dr. Sewall himself to the same effect. The artist admitted that he had been deceived in that color—that it was not what it should have been—and he assured me that such a defect should not occur again.

That some *discrepancies* may occasionally be apparent between different prints of the small stomachs, as Dr. McNaughton affirms, I do not doubt. In striking off a great number of prints the stones become worn, and besides the colors are not always prepared or applied with the same skill. And as to the enlarged prints, every one must be aware that they are not exact representations of the human stomach in either health or disease, but of the human stomach greatly enlarged. Still, when well executed, the approximation is sufficiently near, it is believed, to answer the purpose of a distant view, for which they were especially intended.

However this may be, no pains will be spared to render both the large and small impressions as perfect as possible. The defect in the carmine already pointed out in the enlarged prints, has been corrected—and though great pains have already been taken to render these prints, of both kinds, correct, there may notwithstanding be slight defects in both ; and as a future edition is called for, and as it is desirable to render them as unexceptionable as practicable, any suggested corrections on the part of Drs. McNaughton, Beck, Hun, Emmons, or any other members of their faculty, will be thankfully acknowledged and carefully attended to.

Now as to the correctness of these prints, I am not a judge ; still, in view of the subjoined evidence in their favor, which is but a small part of that in my possession, I trust the Faculty of the Albany Medical College, will admit that I have had good reason to believe that the prints in question were—I will not say perfect, for there is no perfection here—but sufficiently so to answer the purpose for which they were intended.

Dr. Sewall says "for upwards of thirty years I have been more or less engaged in Pathological researches during which I have enjoyed many opportunities of inspecting the stomach of the drunkard after death, in the various stages and degrees of inebriation ; and these drawings will be found to present a pretty accurate delineation of the principal morbid changes produced upon that organ by intemperance—changes which are eminently worthy of being brought to the view of the unsuspecting sufferers, and which I should hope might have some ef-



fect in deterring the temperate from the use of alcoholic poison.

Professor Horner who furnishes the drawing of the heathful stomach says.

"I have looked carefully into your work on the Pathology of the Stomach as influenced by alcoholic drinks, and think very highly of the fidelity with which you have portrayed its characters. I trust that the very general and just extension of it, indicated by the magnitude of its editions, will add another check to the many now existing against the cause of intemperance. I, of course, cannot feel less than highly gratified at your considering any poor contribution of my own to medical science as worthy of a place in your excellent production."

Professor Mott says—

"I thank you for the pamphlet and letter of my worthy and much esteemed friend Dr. Sewall. It contains an admirable and faithful delineation of the appearances of the stomach of the drunkard, such as I have myself frequently witnessed. *They are true to the death.* You could not have resorted to a more forcible and impressive illustration of the fatal effects of this sad and destructive vice, than is here exhibited on so vital an organ as the stomach."

Professor Warren says—

"Nothing can be better adapted to operate on the minds of the unfortunate victims of intemperance, than your excellent representations of the drunkard's stomach. I have long desired that the public could see in their true colors, the physical changes wrought by alcoholic drinks on the human body. The vivid pictures of Professors Horner and Sewall have accomplished my wish."

Such is the testimony concerning which this anonymous writer says, "*a careful examination of the certificates given by physicians to Mr. Delavan will show that they do not really testify to the truth or accuracy of the drawings as exhibitions of DISEASE INDUCED BY ALCOHOL.*"

Now if the foregoing testimony of Dr. Horner, who declares, "*I cannot feel less than highly gratified at your considering any poor contribution of my own to medical science as worthy of a place in your excellent work;*" of Dr. Mott, who declares "*they [the drawings] are true to the death;*" of Dr. Warren, who declares "*I have long desired that the public may see in their true colors the physical changes wrought by alcoholic drinks on the human body. The vivid pictures of Prof. Horner and Sewall have accomplished my wish.*" I repeat it, if this testimony contains, as is affirmed, nothing in favor "*of the truth and accuracy of these drawings as exhibitions of disease induced by alcohol,*"

I fear that there is not anything I could select out of the mass of testimony in their favor before me, which would be regarded as more satisfactory.

To enable the public, however, to judge on which side the weight of testimony lies, I shall not hesitate, should it become necessary, at some future period, to spread out more at length other important communications, in my possession, from most respectable sources—in this, and in other countries.

Even now, and at the hazard of being again thought to rely on inconclusive evidence, I cannot refrain from referring to a printed notice of the "*pathology of drunkenness*" from the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, which notice I assure the anonymous writer was unsolicited:—

[See Appendix A.]

I have been assured that since the publication of these prints dissections have frequently taken place, and comparisons been made between the drunkards stomach thus exhibited, and the prints in question, which comparisons have gone to confirm their accuracy—and I may add, that at the late Temperance anniversary, agents publicly declared that in different places where they had been lecturing, they had appealed to physicians, and always successfully, for the general accuracy of these prints—and that the physicians then present, rose in their places and bore testimony to the accuracy of the same, among which physicians there were men, standing confessedly in the first ranks of the profession.

It happened that while the temperance convention (representing at least 800,000 of total abstinence citizens of the State of New-York,) was in session, that the value of Dr. Sewall's work was discussed. The whole argument presented by the anonymous writer aforesaid, was freely canvassed, and after a full examination of the merits of the work in question, a series of resolutions were passed, and by the unanimous vote of that convention (taken by rising) were directed to be presented to the Hon. the Legislature.

[See Appendix E.]

In view of the foregoing evidence, I am induced to believe that *the original drawings* declared by Dr. Sewall to be copied from specimens actually furnished by dissection, and which drawings were declared by Dr. Mott, "*to be true unto the death.*"—I repeat it, under these circumstances, I am induced to believe, that the *original drawings* thus attested, must have been sufficiently accurate, and sufficiently expressive of the morbid effects of alcoholic poison, on the human stomach, to justify their insertion in a history of the Pathology of Drunkenness—and



I can only reconcile the testimony of these, and other distinguished surgeons, with what has been said by the anonymous writer in the Journal, and responded to, at least to some extent, by others—by supposing that the lithographic copy, or copies of the original drawings submitted to their inspection—were either imperfect copies—or that the lights in which they were placed was unfavorable to an examination of the same—and that whatever defects in them have been, or may hereafter be discovered, can easily be corrected in the future edition about to be published.

But the accuracy of these drawings apart, and though it be admitted that "*the free use of ardent spirits, wine, beer, or any intoxicating liquors, will produce these morbid changes,*" still, however, it is said that since other causes, as "eating voraciously or to excess, may produce similar effects"; and since, also, persons "perfectly temperate have died of cancerous stomachs," and though it is admitted "*that it may be true that a tendency to such disease is increased by the use of alcohol*"—In one word, and to sum up this reasoning, since other causes as well as alcohol, produce the diseases in question, therefore it is assumed that these prints "*prove nothing to the purpose and are useless.*"

Now it seems to me, however many other causes of disease and death there may be, and even though the vengeance which alcohol inflicts on the human stomach, were no more frequent, or more terrible than that inflicted by other causes, still it were well to draw aside the veil and expose to the unsuspecting drunkard and the drinker, the ruin which this poison is imprinting, unseen, on the delicate texture of this vital organ.

That there are other causes which derange the digestive organs, and which produce scirrhus, and even cancerous stomachs, is not denied. But if there be any other cause which as frequently does this as alcohol, then the note of warning against the use of this poison has been falsely sounded by the most eminent physicians, both in this and other countries.

Says the anonymous writer, "the drawings are intended to exhibit the effects of alcoholic drinks upon the human stomach, from the temperate to the intemperate use of them." Again—"if they do not prove this, they prove nothing to the purpose, and are useless."

That such is the doctrine taught by this series of prints, is readily admitted; but that this teaching is false, is not, nor is it to be without proof, admitted.

How then stands the evidence in the case? That

alcoholic drinks may sometimes be advantageously used as medicine, is not denied. Nor is it denied that the injury inflicted by their occasional use as a beverage in health, may be so slight, and so suddenly repaired by the vital principle, as not to remain permanently apparent; but it is denied that its habitual use as a beverage, even its temperate habitual use, is ever innocuous to the human constitution.

What then are "*alcoholic drinks,*" or rather intoxicating drinks? For alcohol is not the only ingredient in these drinks that produces drunkenness. And what is meant by their "*temperate use*" as a beverage?

What are alcoholic drinks? What in their visible effects? What in the estimation of great and good men, the conservators of the public health?

Says Sir Astley Cooper—"No person has a greater hostility to dram drinking than myself, insomuch that I never suffer any ardent spirits in my house, thinking them evil spirits; and if the poor could witness the white livers, the dropsies, the shattered, nervous systems which I have seen, as the consequences of drinking, they would be aware that spirits and poisons are synonymous terms."

Says Dr. Mussey—"That alcohol is a poison to our organization, is evident from observation. It may, indeed, be mixed with nutritious substances, as 'arsenic for rats,' but if it goes into the blood it is thrown off as soon as the system can accomplish its deliverance, unless nature has been too far enfeebled by the influence of the poison. Such a poison is alcohol; such in all its forms, mix with it what you may. It is never digested and converted into nourishment."

Alcohol is known and admitted to be a most virulent poison, and thus it is classed in works of toxicology. Doct. Paris, in his new classification of poisons, places it with "*acrid poisons.*" M. M. Fodere places it with "*nux vomica, cocculus indicus, poisonous mushrooms,*" &c. Mr. Brodie proved by experiments on animals, that *alcohol and prussic acid* were similar in their effects.

I might multiply authorities on this article to any extent, but it is unnecessary.

Alcoholic liquors then, are liquors, as the term denotes, containing poison.

Our next inquiry is, what is meant by the TEMPERATE USE as a beverage, of alcoholic, or rather *intoxicating liquors*?

Dr. Sewall tells us what he means by it; and this of course is the sense to which the term in this discussion must be confined; at least in so far as the



truthfulness of the prints in question is concerned and when thus confined, whatever may be the case with the anonymous writer who called forth this discussion, I cannot but think that medical gentlemen will admit that the plate in question is not an inappropriate exhibition of the stage of disease it is intended to portray.

The words of Dr. Sewall are as follows:—"In fig. 2d of the same plate, we have exhibited the internal surface of the stomach of the temperate drinker; the man who takes his glass of mint sling in the morning, and his toddy on going to bed; or of him who takes his two or three glasses of Madeira at his dinner. And here the work of destruction begins. That beautiful net-work of blood vessels which was invisible in the healthy stomach, being excited by the stimulus of alcohol, becomes dilated and distended with blood, visible and distinct. This effect is produced upon the well known law of the animal economy, that an irritant applied to a sensitive texture of the body, induces an increased flow of blood to the part. The mucous or inner coat of the stomach, is a sensitive membrane, and is subject to this law. A practical illustration of this principle is shewn by reference to the human eye. If a few drops of alcohol, or any other irritating substance, be brought in contact with the delicate coats of the eye, a net-work of fine vessels, which were before invisible, become distended with blood, and easily seen. If this operation be repeated daily, as the temperate drinker takes his alcohol, the vessel becomes habitually increased in size and distended with blood."

If it be "a law of animal economy that an irritant applied to a sensitive texture of the body induces an increased flow of blood to the part." And if it be true that alcohol itself is poison, and that other and intenser poisons are often if not usually mingled with it in those intoxicating liquors, of which the class of persons included in the above description drank, is it to be believed, that no visible evidence of the ruins which the daily use of such poisons are calculated to impress on the delicate organ of the stomach should be apparent, through any of the successive stages of inconsiderate indulgence, till the drinker becomes a drunkard—and then that suddenly, and in all its aggravation, the foot-print of approaching dissolution develops itself.

If this be true of the stomach, it is, I apprehend, the only organ of which it is true. It is often the case, long before the drinker becomes the drunkard, that the free and frequent use of the poisonous beverage contained in the intoxicating chalice, reddens his eye, his nose, and even blotches his coun-

tenance. And why should the stomach, with which this fiery element is daily brought in contact, escape? It would indeed be marvellous if it should; and that it does not, is not entirely conjecture.

In addition to what Sir Astley Cooper, as already quoted, has said in relation to "the white livers, the dropsies, the shattered nervous systems he had seen as the consequence of drinking," Dr. Gordon, of the London Hospital declares "*that most of the bodies of moderate drinkers which, when in Edinburgh he opened, were found diseased in the liver, and that these symptoms appeared also in bodies of temperate people, which he had examined in the West Indies.*" He also adds, "that the mortality among the coal-whippers, who are brought to the London Hospital, is frightful; that the moment these beer drinkers are attacked with any acute disease, they are unable to bear depletion, and die directly."

The following declaration was signed by four Professors of the medical faculty of the University of Glasgow, by eleven members of the Royal College of Physicians, by twenty-seven fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons, and by thirty-four other medical practitioners, in all 77.

"We, the undersigned, do declare our conviction, that ardent spirits are not to be regarded as a nourishing article of diet; that the habitual use of them is a principal cause of disease, poverty and misery in this place; and that the entire disuse of them, would powerfully contribute to improve the health and comfort of the community."

The following declaration was signed by fifty of the most eminent Physicians and Surgeons in Dublin:

"We, the undersigned, hereby declare, that in our opinion nothing would tend so much to the improvement of the health of the community, as an entire disuse of ardent spirits, which we consider as the most productive cause of the diseases and consequent poverty and wretchedness of the working classes of Dublin."

After thirty years practice, Dr. Cheyne, of Dublin, gives it as his opinion, "that should ten young men begin at twenty-one years of age to use but one glass of two ounces a day, and never increase the quantity, *nine out of ten would shorten life more than ten years.*"

Dr. Kirk, of Scotland, gave it as his opinion, "*that men who were never considered intemperate, by daily drinking, have often shortened life more than twenty years, and that the respectable use of this poison kills more men than even drunkenness.*"

Dr. Harris says "the moderate use of spirituous liquors has destroyed many who were never drunk."



Says Dr. Trotter, "no cause of disease has so wide a range or so large a share as the use of spirituous liquors."

Dr. Frank says, "their tendency, when used even moderately, is to induce disease, premature old age, and death."

Dr. Emlen says, "*all use of ardent spirits* (i. e. as a drink,) *is an abuse. They are mischievous under all circumstances.*"

—"Half the men every year who die of fevers might recover had they not been in the habit of using ardent spirit, and many a man who was never intoxicated, when visited with a fever, might be raised up as well as not were it not for that state of the system which daily moderate drinking occasions, who now, in spite of all that can be done, sinks down and dies."

Sir Astley Cooper has said "there was little hope of a strong beer drinker who was brought into the hospital, even with a slight wound. Such was the state of the blood."

More might be said on this point but more is unnecessary. From what has been said it is sufficiently apparent that Doct. Sewell is not alone in the opinion that the temperate, as well as the intemperate habitual use of intoxicating liquors leaves its morbid impress upon the system. On the contrary, that a host of honored names stand arrayed on his side, a few of whom only have been mentioned.

But how true soever these prints may be "it is said they are inappropriate, and powerless representations—that the principle on which they are designed to act is wrong—that they have no more effect than a map of the State of New York." It is said—"Hang them in the corners of our streets, in every grog shop or house where poison is sold, in the halls of judiciary and legislation, cover the walls of your churches and float them in every ship, and you will fail of making a single convert to temperance."

I cannot but think that the objections here raised, and the opinions here expressed, are founded in misapprehensions of the real nature of man, and however tame and powerless these prints may appear to the practiced eye of some surgeons in the dissecting room, that their appearance is often full of instruction and interest to the common beholder, especially to the man who, travelling in the road to ruin, sees in these prints, for the first time, the evidence of the progress he has made and the presage of what is to be his future end.

The eye has in all ages been considered one of the most direct and certain avenues to the heart, and it cannot be that the world has been mistaken

in the powerful influences that pictorial illustrations are calculated to exert alike over infancy and age; especially over those classes who have not the ability or leisure to avail themselves of the instruction which books afford.

But to no class are they more adapted than to seamen, who, far from their friends and their home, surrounded by temptation, and shut out from other means of information in relation to the utter desolation which the use of intoxicating liquors is occasioning amid the delicate tissues of their own organism; here see at a glance the landmarks that are planted by the hand of Providence at every stage along this whole line of march, from its first inception down to inevitable death in the most horrid of forms.

But it is unnecessary to argue this point. These prints have been exhibited in lecture rooms, circulated in books, and hung up in public places of resort, and tidings have reached me from many parts of this and other States that they have every where proved to be one of the most convenient and powerful auxiliaries hitherto furnished in the furtherance of the temperance cause—that they have been instrumental in revealing to many a poor inebriate his danger, and that they have been seldom any where exhibited without having fixed the eye and touched the heart, and quickened the conscience of some poor wanderer from the paths of temperance and of safety. Nor to this country has the approval of this repudiated measure been confined. Orders for these prints have been received from Europe, and accompanied by the assurance that they were exciting more attention, and gave promises of making even in England a deeper impression upon the public mind than any expedient hitherto adopted.

Whatever may be the opinion of some persons to the contrary, there can be no doubt that this effort to further the temperance cause by the exhibition of these pictorial representations of the effects of alcohol on the human stomach, meets the approbation of the most intelligent friends of the cause. From the numerous unpublished letters in my possession to that effect, it may not be out of place to give an extract from one received from Maj. Gen. Scott, one of the earliest writers in favor of temperance which this country has furnished; also one from Dr. Blachford, and another from an old sea-captain.

[See Appendix B.]

If to any it appears strange that I should take so deep an interest in revealing the knowledge heretofore confined in the dead-room of the surgeon, in relation to the morbid influence of intoxicating li-



quors upon the human stomach, by an exhibition before the public eye, and especially before the eye of youth, of those appalling and, I believe, truth-telling prints in question, the explanation of that interest may be found in the reluctant admission, that on looking round for the companions of my youth, I am met with the distressing fact, that forty out of fifty have already gone to a drunkard's grave.

With the generation now rising up, my own children and the children of my friends and neighbors are associated—and having been so situated myself, as to have become acquainted with the desolations that intoxicating liquors have occasioned among the generation which has passed away, (which desolations may have been less observed by those whose attention has been less called to the subject,) my conscience would be ill at ease, (having engaged in this Temperance cause,) were I to leave undone anything which seem calculated to guard my own children, as well as their associates, against that delusive, but reputable habit of temperate drinking; a habit which, though it has proved fatal to thousands even in reputable society, still has, in reputable society its advocates.

Others may differ from me on this subject, and they have a right to differ. I wish to satisfy my own conscience, and I cheerfully concede to others

the same privilege. There may be those in community so situated as to deem it right to exert their influence in counteracting this attempt to convey to our seamen, at home and abroad, on the mighty waters, by these pictorial illustrations, a knowledge of the evils that intoxicating liquors are secretly inflicting on a vital organ of their own bodies; and by conveying this knowledge, to contribute to their rescue, from a doom the most common and the most terrible. A case illustrative of this doom in one of its forms, is furnished in the distressful and untimely death of the delirious sailor.

[See Appendix C.]

In view of what has been said, and much more that might be said, I should prefer whatever should be the decision of others, to be numbered among the promoters, rather than the opposers of an enterprise, intended by the diffusion of knowledge and the presenting of incentives to reformation, to prevent among seamen the recurrence of such horrors; an enterprise, in the furtherance of which, as seems to me, it were glorious to succeed—and having honestly and perseveringly made the attempt, glorious even to fail.

EDWARD C. DELAVAN.

[See Appendix D.]

## APPENDIX.

### (A.)

From the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

"**PATHOLOGY OF DRUNKENNESS.**—If ever an age was characterized by philanthropy in regard to those who are suffering from the evils of intemperance, surely it must be the one in which we have the happiness to live. Men of all professions of faith, and of all orders of talent, throughout the civilized world, admirably concur in the opinion that a great moral revolution must be brought about, Drunkenness in all its forms, from the palace to the Indian's wigwam, has spread its fearful ravages through every lane, and vice, crime and death follow in its train.—The present general movement of good men to stay the awful plague will be regarded, in after times, as an extraordinary epoch in the history of our race.

"Much as we deplore the sin of intemperance, we have sometimes felt weary in trying to keep pace with the publications which are extensively circulated, both to alarm the inebriate and to urge reformers to labor in the good cause with undiminished ardor, since Heaven blesses those who ask for blessings on a penitent. Some one has politely sent us an extra Enquirer from Albany, containing a letter to E. C. Delavan, Esq. by Thomas Sewall, M. D., on the "Pathology of Drunkenness, or the effects of alcoholic drinks, with drawings of the

Drunkard's Stomach," accompanied by four plates beautifully executed on stone, and colored, of the natural size. No anatomical work, within our recollection, presents more exact representations of that organ. The blood vessels exhibited on the inflamed mucus coat, really look as if they would bleed if roughly handled. The excellence of this illustrated letter consists in the fact that any one can understand it. Although strictly scientific, it is essentially the thing wanted, because it speaks plainly yet positively to the drunkard. With his own eyes he may examine the very appearance of his own burnt stomach, and if he should not be either reformed or alarmed by the fact simile, the letter by Dr. Sewall must awaken his sensibilities if he has one remaining spark of consciousness.

"Circumstances at present debar us from making extracts from a work which meets our warmest approbation. It should reach every hamlet in the Union—and physicians should unhesitatingly aid in carrying on a work in which all well-wishers to the human family are engaged. Dr. S. treats the subject properly: there is neither a display of temper nor ill-will towards the drunkard; nor is there a mawkish sensibility discoverable in his remarks. Take it all in all, he has certainly contributed important aid to the cause of Temperance, for which we in common with the friends of humanity, ten-



der our thanks. The letter with its splendid plates, is really the commencement of a new effort, which we pray that our medical brethren may enlarge upon and carry forward to their utmost ability."

( B. )

*From Gen. Scott.*

"If the plates could be obtained for the several military posts they could not fail powerfully to aid the cause of temperance, and thereby greatly help the discipline of the army. Possibly the Secretary of War may be able to procure the plates in question for the army: if not, I suggest a circular from this office to the councils of administration, recommending the purchase, &c., out of the respective post-funds. The post funds are, it is true, but "scanty," but I think it will be in the power of some of the larger posts to make the acquisition in the course of the year. I shall watch over their ability to do so with solicitude, and not neglect any opportunity that may offer to get for the use of the army as many copies of the plates as practicable.

I am happy to find you yet persevering in the great practical and moral reform to which you have devoted so many years. The results at home and abroad have already been greater than the most sanguine had twenty years ago anticipated."

*From T. W. Blatchford, M. D.*

Dear Sir.—I am delighted with your efforts to give extensive circulation to the delineations of alcoholic inroads upon the delicate membrane of the human stomach. The idea of letting the *eye* fasten upon a specimen, while the *ear* receives its description, is the true way to make upon the mind lasting impressions of any subject. Hence the anatomist, the physiologist, the naturalists, &c. &c. when practicable always employs this method to teach their respective sciences. I rejoice that this method is being adopted in reference to the all important subject of Temperance. I consider the day it was introduced as an important era in the glorious cause.

I am astonished to see that Dr. Sewall has been enabled to give such correct representations of the various stages of alcoholic disease as it affects the stomach. I have witnessed the examination of many stomachs more or less accustomed to the use of alcoholic drinks, both in the London dissecting rooms, and in our own, and I hesitate not to say that Sewall's drawings correspond vividly with my own recollections. The world owes him a debt which time can never pay. As it regards their correctness, I fully agree in the opinions expressed by Drs. Horner, Mott, Warren &c. &c.

The impressions made upon the mind of our youth by these representations may be calculated to

be as durable as their memories, for depend upon it such early impressions are not easily effaced. I think the county of Rensselaer, if not immediately, will remotely acknowledge itself in this respect under weighty obligations to Wm. P. Van Rensselaer, Esq., for his munificent donation. I see by the papers that he has generously offered to defray the expenses of placing one of Sewall's volumes in every school district in the county. It is a noble gift—it will meet with a rich reward—money could not be better spent.

I trust you may succeed with our Legislature in your efforts for the neglected wanderer of the deep, and, if possible, our more neglected inland watermen. How the Legislature could appropriate a few dollars to better advantage, I cannot conceive. Make all our boatmen and sailors *totally temperate*, and I defy arithmetic to calculate the *pecuniary* benefit which would accrue to our empire state, to say nothing of higher and holier advantages. Let it be remembered, too, that the sometimes tedious leisure of the sailor makes him a peculiarly fit subject to be benefited by such a mode of instruction as you contemplate. With best wishes for the good cause, I remain, as ever,

Yours sincerely,

THOS. W. BLATCHFORD.

*Extract of a Letter from one of the oldest Sea Captains in the city of New-York.*

"I hope you find the Legislature ready to aid in your benevolent effort for seamen. It is the best method of reaching a large proportion of these long neglected men, for many are unwilling to attend temperance meetings; but a glance at these impressive realities, leave an impression not easily effaced. If any member can doubt for a moment the expediency of your enterprise, I wish they would spend a few hours at the Sailor's Home, and listen to the various remarks of the sailors, and the effect these valuable illustrations, have upon their minds, and no doubt will have upon their future course in this life and the world to come."

( C. )

THE DELIRIOUS SAILOR—\* \* \* Suddenly Amos roused himself from one of his lethargic fits—"The demons are after me," cried he—"There they are grinning, grinning at me, and gnashing their teeth. I see their eyes of fire, and their horrible looking visages. They seek to chastise me with their red-hot iron scourges. Oh! how they scowl and hiss! while a stream of livid fire issues from their mouths! And now they rush towards me Away! away! I will not be taken and thrown among the loathsome venomous reptiles in that deep and dark pit!—Keep off! keep off! I will not go with you!"



Saying this and uttering screams of terror, this unhappy being, exerting a preternatural strength, burst from the bands which had confined him during the night, and, in spite of Samson's exertions threw himself from his berth. He sprang to the fore-escape, and pushed the cook, who sought to prevent his leaving the fore-castle, with violence against the bulk-head. He rushed up the ladder, and in a moment was on deck, fully impressed with the idea that a legion of devils were in close pursuit, bent upon torturing him to death!

His appearance at that moment was singularly wild and terrific—he was clad in no garment, excepting his shirt—his long black hair hung in elf-locks on his shoulders—his eyes were lighted up with the fires of insanity—his teeth were firmly set, and his lips apart, exhibiting a ghastly grin—his visage was haggard, bearing the stamp of unutterable woe—and his voice was clear and shrill, and unearthly as he cried out "Oh help me—for God's sake help me. Save me from these devils who are clutching me. Away—away—away! Ah! they have got me now. I feel their burning breath on my shoulders. Oh, mother—MOTHER—help your son! I feel their talons buried in my throat and thus, and thus I dash them to the earth!"

Here the hapless sailor escaped the hands of Mr. Culpepper and Ned Hopkins, who had seized him as he was running aft, after having with almost incredible agility, leaped over the windlass and the fife-rail. He sprang upon the beak of the quarter deck, and was instantly within the powerful grasp of Capt. Branchbill—but notwithstanding the great strength, he was unable to arrest the career of the madman to destruction. Amos caught the Captain by the windpipe, and compressing it with all the fury of madness, threw him, as if he had been adwarf with tremendous force against the binnacle and in a moment after, the maniac was standing alone on the taffrail, unincumbered and free. With one hand he pointed to the fathomless deep, which seemed to yawn beneath his feet, and he fiercely shook the other at his fancied pursuers—exclaiming in a hollow but exulting tone, "Accursed fiends! I have escaped from your withering grasp. I am now beyond your reach, and I defy you! Ha! ha! ha!"—and his maniac laugh swept over the face of the waters, and sent a chill to the bosom of his shipmates.

A rush was made by the crew to the stern of the ship, to save the unhappy man from the fate which he involuntarily seemed to covet. But ere a hand could be laid upon his person, he sprang high in the air, and alighted in the waters, over which the ship had just passed. He disappeared for a moment beneath the surface, and then his head suddenly rose high up above the waves. The poor fellow uttered a shrill and piercing shriek—a shriek which seemed to be the very embodiment of horror—and which rang in the ears of his shipmates for days, and months and years afterwards. He then sank beneath the waters, and was never seen again.

The main top-sail was laid aback—the quarter boat was lowered and manned—Mr. Ringbolt himself sprang into the stern seats and seized the tiller, and the boat was shoved off and pulled in the direction of the ship's wake, where Amos was last seen—but no trace of this miserable victim of intemper-

ance could be found. The waters which had parted to receive him, were now closed over him—and not a ripple remained to mark the spot.

Such was the fate of Amos Chaucey!

( D. )

To the Hon. the Legislature of the State of New-York in Senate and Assembly convened:

We, the undersigned, beg leave respectfully to represent that, from the experience of a long series of years in the navigation of the Hudson river, Erie Canal, and Western Lakes, we have become fully and firmly convinced that the practice of temperance, or total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks, by those employed in the navigation of those waters, would tend more to the safety of the lives and property committed to their charge, than all penal laws which could be devised, and would do more for the promotion of their own personal comfort and happiness than any other practice which could be recommended or introduced. And your petitioners further represent, that having noticed an application already before your honorable body, for an appropriation sufficient to furnish watermen with Dr. Sewall's drawings of the human stomach, as affected by intoxicating liquors, do most earnestly pray that measure may be adopted.

Your petitioners are the more anxious for the grant in question, because they know of no argument which could be brought before this class of people, which would at once be so convincing, as these drawings, when once placed in plain view on board the various craft on which they may be employed. One glance at these drawings, by men placed in the position of the class here represented, will do more to stay the ravages of Intemperance, than all the reading which can be procured by men in their situation.

THADDEUS JOY,  
MARQUIS BARNES,  
A. VAN SANTFORD,  
HORACE MEACH,  
T. JOY & Co.  
WILLIAM DOW,  
E. M. TEALL.

( E. )

Action of the New York State Temperance Society at its 14th Annual Meeting, held in Albany, 8th inst., relative to Dr. Sewall's work.

Whereas, Dr. Sewall has given the Pathology of Drunkenness, accompanied with drawings of the Human Stomach under the influence of intoxicating liquors, from the first inception of the disease, to death by delirium tremens; and whereas, the accuracy of these drawings has been endorsed by Prof. Horner of Philadelphia, Prof. Mott, of N. Y. and Prof. Warren of Boston, as well as by many other distinguished individuals belonging to the profession; and whereas, these drawings speak to the eye in language that cannot be misunderstood; therefore

Resolved, That (fully concurring with the Hon. S. Young, Superintendent of Common Schools, in the opinion "that these prints will make a more lasting impression on the minds of reflecting indi-



viduals, and even on the thoughtless and ignorant, than any other work that has ever been published," this society highly approve, and earnestly recommend their introduction into all the schools in this State, and that steps be taken in each county, to accomplish this important work; and

*Whereas*, These prints are eminently calculated to attract the attention, and correct the opinion of sailors, in relation to the effect of intoxicating liquors; therefore

*Resolved*, That this society rejoice to learn that a bill is now before the Legislature, for placing the same in the shipping belonging to this State, whether navigating the ocean or inland waters; and sympathizing with those other friends of neglected seamen, who have petitioned the Legislature on this subject—the society ardently hope, that the petition will be responded to by the Legislators of our State.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this society be presented to Henry Andrew, esq. of New York, for supplying all the district schools of that city with the bound volume of Dr. Sewall's work on the Pathology of Drunkenness, as also eight sets of the colossal drawings to various public institutions in the city; also to James Lennox, esq. of New York, for a donation of \$500, to supply all the district schools in the counties of Dutchess, Westchester and Columbia, with the bound volume, and Princeton Seminary of New Jersey, with two sets of the colossal drawings; to O. R. Van Benthuyzen of Albany, to supply Albany co.; to William P. Van Rensselaer, to supply Rensselaer co.; to Dr. J. Speed and other friends of Temperance in Tompkins co., and to Nathan Brown, esq. of Fulton, to supply those counties with the bound volumes; and J. B. Minturn, of New York, to supply the schools of Suffolk co.; as well as all other gentlemen who have ordered single copies at their own expense, of the colossal drawings to be sent abroad, or to be hung up in public institutions in our own country. And the society earnestly call upon all the friends of temperance in this and other states, not to relax their efforts until these faithful monitors, addressed as well to the moderate drinker as the drunkard, shall be exhibited to the gaze of the whole population of the Union.

*Whereas*, This Society has been informed, that it is the intention of E. C. Delavan, to devote all the profits derived from the sale of Dr. Sewall's valuable work, and the periodical with which it has been connected, (of which O. Scovil is agent,) to sustain the New York State Temp. Society, the Am. Temperance Union, and to advance the cause of Temperance generally, therefore

*Resolved*, That the members of this convention, being convinced that no effort could now be made in this or other states or in other parts of the world, better adapted to advance the cause of temperance, than by the universal circulation of the bound vol. in all schools, and the exhibition of the colossal drawings in all public institutions of learning, court houses, &c. &c., will make every effort in their power to give universal circulation to these valuable illustrations, the fidelity of which has been established, by testimony of the most celebrated anatomists in this country.

( F. )

*Petition of the Washington Temperance Society of the city of Albany, consisting of about 2000 pledged members, and signed by the President and Secretary of the Society, and others, that the Honorable the Legislature would grant the prayer of the Underwriters, and others of the city of New-York, in favor of furnishing Dr. Sewall's work on the Pathology of drunkenness, and the human stomach as affected by intemperance from health to death by delirium tremens:—*

To the Honorable the Legislature of the State of New-York, in Senate and Assembly convened, we the undersigned respectfully represent:—

That the Albany Washington Temperance Society having learned from the papers that a petition of citizens of New-York, underwriters, merchants, and others, of all parties interested in carrying forward the Temperance reformation among seamen, have asked for a grant for the purpose of furnishing the shipping on the ocean and inland waters with copies of Dr. Sewall's Pathology of Drunkenness, accompanied by drawings of the human stomach as affected by intoxicating liquors, said society at a meeting held the 6th day of February, 1843, passed unanimously the following resolutions:—

*Whereas* many of the members of this society having heretofore suffered severely from the use of intoxicating liquors, sympathise with those who are still enduring the evils from which, by the help of total abstinence, they have entirely escaped: and whereas they have witnessed the striking and salutary effects of these drawings, (the correctness of which have been established by the most celebrated anatomists in the United States,) while exhibited in their own place of meeting: and whereas said drawing are eminently adapted to the condition of seamen, who are suffering more than almost any other class of citizens from the use of such liquors: and whereas seamen have neither time nor opportunity to acquire information on this subject by reading books or hearing lectures: and whereas these drawings, if placed on board of passenger ships, would not only furnish visible instruction to seamen, who have hitherto been so much neglected, but also to emigrants, now so much exposed to those miseries which the use of intoxicating liquors inflict: and whereas large sums have been granted to colleges, academies, schools and asylums for the poor, the blind, and the insane, while the education, the comfort, and the morals of seamen, to whom society owes so much, have been hitherto almost entirely neglected.

Therefore *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Society the appropriation in question is called for, alike by duty and interest, by patriotism and religion.

*Resolved*, That this Society earnestly unite with their fellow-citizens in New-York in their petition for the grant in question, and that these resolutions be signed by the President and Secretary, together with such other members as may find it convenient to affix their names—and delivered to our Representative to be by him presented to the Assembly.

JOHN IGGETT, Pres't.

W. B. GOURLAY, Sec'y, and others.

The Washington Temperance Society of Troy, consisting of 1600 members, has likewise petitioned



the Hon. Legislature, praying that the application of the underwriters, merchants, &c. may be granted, so that emigrants as well as sailors may be befitted thereby, and that the former, by seeing Dr. Sewall's plates, may arrive *ready formed* total abstinence men in the United States, and leave the Washingtonians to devote their energies to reclaim the intemperate men in the country, and persuade the moderate drinker to abandon all use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, thereby preventing the possibility of their ever becoming intemperate.

( G. )

*Action of the Congressional Society.*

[At a great meeting at the Capitol, Washington, where the Colossal Drawings were exhibited, the following resolutions were introduced by the Hon. MILARD FILLMORE, of New York, and passed unanimously.]

*Resolved.* That the effects of alcoholic drinks upon the human stomach by means of drawing, is the commencement of a new effort, and imparts a fresh impulse to the cause of temperance, being admirably calculated to reform the drunkard, and confirm sober men in the practice of total abstinence.

*Resolved.* That the Essay of Dr. Sewall, entitled "Pathology of Drunkenness," with plates of the human stomach, as published by E. C. Delavan, Esq., in the Enquirer, should be extensively circulated in this and other countries; and that the enlarged drawings of the drunkard's stomach, exhibited at this meeting, should be possessed by all temperance societies, and be permanently exposed to view in all suitable places of public resort.

( H. )

After the attack on Dr. Sewall's work in the Evening Journal of the second instant, by an anonymous writer, (a writer as I have reason to believe who is not a doctor of medicine,) I forwarded the article of this anonymous writer, (who has volunteered to instruct the Hon. the Legislature,) to the Rev. Dr. Nott, President of Union College. As Dr. Nott has lectured from Dr. Sewall's Colossal Drawings in the Legislative chamber, before the Legislative Temperance Society; to his own students, to the officers and students of Yale College; to large audiences made up of all classes of citizens in Boston, New-York, Albany, Hartford, and many other places; I cannot but think his testimony, founded on experiment and personal observation, of the value of those illustrations, and the benefit the temperance cause is like to receive from their universal exhibition, not only on land, but on board all our canal boats and vessels, whether on river, lake or ocean, will be considered in the opinion of the Hon. the Legislature, the

friends of temperance, and the public generally, quite as worthy of consideration, if not more so, than the opinion of the anonymous writer in question, who most probably has never lectured from these transparencies, or heard them lectured from.

The following letter was received from Dr. Nott in answer to my enquiry, after the above communication was in type, and as he has given me permission to publish it, I hasten to lay it before the public. E. C. D.

UNION COLLEGE, FEB. 17th, 1843.

DEAR SIR:—Your favour with its enclosure has come to hand. In relation to the Colossal prints of the human stomach, I mentioned to you some time since (as you must be aware) that one of the colours was defective, and did not truly indicate the tint intended—still, though greatly exceeding in size the human stomach, if this, and perhaps some other slight defects were corrected—they would answer very well in the hands of a person acquainted with the dimensions, and structure, and functions of that organ, to give to spectators at a distance a general idea of its appearance, both in a state of health and of disease, as induced by intoxicating liquors or otherwise.

As to the healthful stomach in the series, I will not venture even an opinion, as I have had no means of verifying it, and as there must always be some difficulty in deciding when the stomach of any individual is in a state of perfect health. Still, such is the known reputation of Prof. Horner—and such the advantages which he has enjoyed for the ascertainment of the truth, that it may be presumed that he has given as fair a specimen as can be given (in the present state of anatomical science) of a **HEALTHY STOMACH.**

Of the Ulcerous and Cancerous stomach, as in the state exhibited in these drawings, I have no personal knowledge. Since, however, these drawings were taken from views furnished by actual dissection—and of persons known to be inebriated; and, since the artist by whom they were taken, had great skill, and great experience in the execution of fac-similes in that department; It may be taken for granted I think, that the resemblances in the case in question, are very perfect. Still, however, I apprehend from the little knowledge that I have on this subject, that these extreme cases are, as Doct. Mc



Naughton affirms, "RARE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOLIC DRINKS."

It will, I presume, be admitted by all those who have any knowledge on the subject, that both Ulcerous and Cancerous stomachs occasionally exist among persons who are not chargeable with any improper use of intoxicating liquors. Still, I presume it will also be admitted, that alcohol and tobacco are believed to be among the most common and efficient causes in the developement of these dreaded maladies.

The smaller prints of the stomach of the drunkard—the drunkard after a debauch—and, of the stomach of the drunkard, as seen after death by delirium tremens, (since it is known that these were also copied by the same accomplished artist, from actual specimens, furnished by the dissection of subjects, the several habits of whom were known to, and vouched for, by the distinguished operator, whose character is extensively known, and whose veracity is unquestioned) I repeat it, since these things are known; these prints may also be received as being what they profess to be, faithful representations of that organ, as seen in the cases in question, in subjects affected by the intemperate use, in its different stages, of alcoholic poison.

Still, and though these drawings were as perfect resemblances as the images reflected in sunbeams from a mirror, they would be perfect resemblances only of the individual specimens of several stomachs actually dissected in the several states in question.

No two human countenances are alike, whether seen in health, in sickness, or after death; how, then, can it be expected that any two human stomachs should be? Each several stomach in all cases given, and in all the cases that may be compared with these cases, must have its own distinctive peculiarities—peculiarities that mark its individuality and visibly distinguish it from every other stomach. Still, in each case, individual stomachs may be selected to represent, and represent truly the class of stomachs to which they severally belong; whether in a state of health or of disease as affected by alcoholic poisons, through all the successive stages as exhibited in persons of the habitual free drinker—the drunkard—the drunkard after a debauch, and after delirium tremens. Which several selections tho' faultless as symbols will, notwithstanding, not be found on comparison to entirely agree with any other stomach in the whole class at the head of which this symbol

stands. The same would be true in physiognomy, which may serve as an illustration. No one conversant with this science will doubt whether portraits could be selected from individuals in health, in sickness and in death which might stand as expressive representations of the well known phases which the human countenance successively assumes, in the successive transitions from health through disease to death.—And yet were a comparison to be instituted between these portraits, and the phases of thousands in each several class for which they severally stand as representations, not one countenance in any class could be found in which discrepancies could not be pointed out between it and the portraiture with which it was compared.

It must be the same with comparisons instituted between these several prints and the specimens of the drinkers or the drunkard's stomach, furnished from time to time in the dissecting room of the physician.

I have a statement of a case in point before me, a case of post mortem examination, furnished by Doctor Ganson, in which the condition of the stomach of the subject in question was not found in comparison to agree with either of Dr. Sewall's prints, and yet in the opinion of the operator that comparison was thought, as I apprehend it will be by the reader, to give confirmation to the general correctness of said prints.

*Batavia, Feb. 21, 1842.*

M. FAGGART, Esq.—I cheerfully subjoin a description of the organ as developed in the present case. Partridge hung himself upon a fence in this village on the evening of the 10th inst. It appeared in evidence that he had been a very intemperate man, and had drank several times during the day preceding his death, and had for many years indulged so excessively in the use of intoxicating liquors, that he had rarely been free from the apparent effects of the stimulus.

On dissecting, the intestines were brought to view, exhibiting a dark red appearance, bordering on black. Upon cutting out a portion of them, and laying open the inner surface, the lining membrane was shown to be completely engorged with blood, and in the highest degree inflamed. This appearance was observed in nearly the whole extent of the small intestines, comprising several feet in length. The membrane dissected was found to correspond with Dr. Sewall's plate of the stomach of a drunkard after a debauch, but more highly inflamed.

I next directed my attention to the stomach, and laying open its cavity, the color of the lining membrane of the organ was seen to be changed from a pale rose tint which is peculiar to health to a deep red, variegated with brown spots, and much more inflamed than Dr. Sewall's plate of



the stomach of the confirmed drunkard, but less so than that of the drunkard after a debauch.—The coats of the stomach were also considerably thickened; and from examination of the stomach and small intestines, we have strong and conclusive corroborative evidence of the fidelity of Dr. Sewall's plates of the human stomach.

From the stomach I proceeded to inspect the liver. This viscous in health, and in a man of temperate habits, has a purple hue; but the liver in Patridge was changed to a reddish drab color peculiar to the drunkard's liver, and what in London is denominated a "gin liver."

The brain next demanded my attention. As I predicted before removing the skull cap, the brain, when brought to view and cut, was tough. The texture of a healthy man's brain is soft.—The change in the one before me was produced by alcohol, a strong smell of which was emitted as the brain underwent the process of dissection.

Yours respectfully,

H. GANSON.

A post mortem examination of an inebriate recently made by Dr. Vedder, Lecturer on Anatomy in this College, adds further confirmation to the general correctness, particularly of Dr. Sewall's print of the stomach of the drunkard. For though on a careful comparison, discrepancies were apparent between the stomach of this inebriate and the print in question, still it was impossible to contemplate the two together without feeling a conviction that the same impress of alcoholic poison had been distinctly stamped on both.

As to the dispute about the *temperate drinker's* stomach, it is a dispute it seems to me about words, and arises out of the different construction put on the term "*temperate drinker*." I do not believe that either of the professional gentlemen concerned wish to be understood to assert that such habitual use of intoxicating liquors as Dr. Sewall describes in connection with this print, may not produce disease long before the person so indulging such use, shall come to be classed by people generally, among common drunkards.

It is, I believe, an admitted fact among physiologists, that the veins of the stomach collapse when it is empty, and become more or less distended when it is again supplied with food; and also that other irritants, besides alcoholic poison produce inflammation in this organ. Still I believe it is also an admitted fact that those poisons are among the most common and most active agents in producing such inflammation.

After making all due concessions, I have no doubt that these prints may be made a legitimate and powerful auxiliary in promoting the tempe-

rance cause. Indeed, when lecturing, I have found them such myself, and never have I been more impressed than when exhibiting them, of the truth of the old adage, "*that seeing is believing*." I have known the exhibition of them excite a deep interest in a whole audience, and particularly among inebriates; some of whom, as the services closed, impressed with an overwhelming sense of their own danger, have rushed forward to enquire whether there remained any hope for them, and at the same time eagerly craving the privilege of signing the total abstinence pledge.

Still, like all useful expedients, these prints may be abused, especially in the hands of ignorant and vulgar men; and as to their exhibition in certain places, it must be expected that a difference of opinion will exist even among the friends of temperance. There are in the world people of very different tastes; and it may not be agreeable to all men, at all times, and in all places, to have representations, (however perfect) of certain things presented before their eyes.

Instructive as these prints may be, and appropriate as they may be in certain places, and on certain occasions, still it must be admitted, that some of them present views, and awaken associations which are not at all times agreeable; and it seems to me the professors in the Medical College are the best judges as to the most befitting place for the same, so far as their institution is concerned; and it also seems to me that an issue in the question of their location in that institution, is not of such consequence to the public as to call for protracted newspaper discussion.

As to the propriety of placing these prints on board the various craft that float in our canals, rivers, lakes, and even on the ocean, I have no doubt. They are eminently suited to the condition of seamen, many of whom cannot read, and many of whom are ignorant of our language; among such a population, they are peculiarly calculated (speaking as they do to the eye,) to awaken attention, to excite interest, and to convey useful knowledge as to the anatomy of the stomach as well as the Pathology of Drunkenness.

The design in contemplation, appears to me to be a benevolent design, and a design full of promise; and, the more deserving of favour, because, intended to benefit a class to whom we are all greatly indebted, and whose mental and moral



culture, have notwithstanding, been long and grievously neglected—and, I do not believe that the gentlemen in the Medical College, whatever opinions they may entertain as to the propriety of hanging these plates in a particular room—have any design to thwart the wishes of the friends of seamen in their application to the legislature; On the contrary, I have no doubt if this question is left to be decided on its merits, apart from any local question, that they will be found disposed rather to favour, than impede the progress of the bill now before the Assembly.

Had I not been unwell, I should have preferred to have said in a personal interview what I had to say, in reply to your letter; rather than to have done this by a written communication. I hope, however, to be able to go to Albany in a few days, and in the mean time, (though I do not forbid the publication of what I have written, if you deem it necessary,) I should prefer, if any use is made of it, that such use should be private and individual.

Very respectfully, Yours &c.

ELIPHALET NOTT.

E. C. DELAVAN.

NOTE—About a month since, I informed Mr. Van Benthuyssen, (through whose agency Dr. Sewall's work has been prepared,) that the Doctor had complained of one of the colors in a set of the plates sent him, (carmine,) as not being as vivid as in the original drawings furnished by him, that it was of vital importance that the character of the work should be preserved, and that I could not hereafter permit Mr. Scovil, the agent, to receive a copy if in any essential degree defective, at the same time giving him an order for 1,000 copies to supply common schools ordered by benevolent individuals, the former editions being entirely exhausted. Mr. Van Benthuyssen stated to me that every care should be taken, but remarked that it was extremely difficult to procure the color named, (carmine,) so as in all cases to preserve the same exact appearance. E. C. D.

( I. )

*Petition from the Catholic Temperance Society of Albany, consisting of 4,278 members.*

To the Honorable the Legislature of the State of New-York.

We, the undersigned, have been delegated to

report for the consideration of your Honorable Body, the proceedings of a general meeting of the Albany Catholic Total Abstinence Association, on the evening of the 21st February, 1843, when the following Preamble and Resolutions were adopted unanimously. The said Association consists and numbers 4,278 members.

"WHEREAS a petition of citizens of the city of New-York, underwriters, merchants and others, of all parties, deeply interested in the progress of the temperance cause among seamen and emigrants, have asked for aid from the Honorable the Legislature of the State of New-York, for the purpose of furnishing vessels on the ocean and inland waters, with copies of Dr. Thomas Sewall's Pathology of Drunkenness, accompanied by drawings of the human stomach as affected by intoxicating liquors.

"AND WHEREAS, these prints have been pronounced by many physicians and surgeons of the greatest eminence in various parts of the United States, to be correct representations of the destructive effects of intoxicating drinks, and therefore are to be considered as a legitimate and powerful auxiliary, in the promotion of the temperance cause among the thoughtless and unreflecting. Therefore,

"Resolved, That this Association most cordially unite with the petitioners of the city of New-York, and of many other places, in praying the Honorable the Legislature to grant such aid as may enable the advocates of a glorious cause to place said prints on board of every vessel navigating the ocean and inland waters, in order to counteract the dangerous temptations to drunkenness, to which seamen and emigrants are continually exposed.

"Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, consisting of the President, Secretary and Matthew McMahon, to deliver the proceedings of this meeting to our representatives, to be by them presented to the Honorable the Legislature."

And the subscribers, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

J. A. SCHNELLER, Pres't.

P. J. MORRIS, Sec'y.

MATTHEW McMAHON.

Albany, Feb. 21st, 1843.

## REMARKS

In relation to the appropriation for placing Doct. Sewall's Pathology of Drunkenness on board our boats, vessels, &c. for the consideration of the Honorable the Legislature.

The fund from which it is proposed that this appropriation should be made, is a special fund denominated the PASSENGER FUND, which has been accumulated by a tax of one dollar levied on all passengers that arrive from foreign countries. This fund so accumulated is charged,

1st. With defraying the expenses of the quarantine establishment.



2d. With \$8 000 per annum to be paid to the society for the reformation of juvenile offenders in New-York. The surplus arising from this source was directed to be invested by the Comptroller in a distinct fund, to be known as the MARINER'S FUND.

By an act of 25th April, 1840, there is to be paid annually, out of it, for twenty years, \$15,000 to the State and Hospital Fund.

Also, by an act of 21st April, 1841, there is to be paid, annually, out of the surplus, \$3,000 to the two Dispensaries in the city of New-York, and

By an act of the 26th May, 1841, there is to be paid the farther sum of \$15,000, to the Treasurer of the State Hospital.

There is in all an annual charge of \$41,000 on this fund; and still there is at present a large surplus, and if the tax is to be continued and emigration increase, there will soon be a much larger surplus, out of which it is desired that a small pittance shall be appropriated for the intellectual and moral improvement of the persons who pay this tax, or for those by whose instrumentality they who pay it, are conveyed to our coast.

If this tax is not to be continued, then it would seem as wise as benevolent to make such an appropriation for such a purpose, before the whole of the large amounts which have already been collected are otherwise appropriated.

In either event and (especially considering what amounts have been bestowed to further the intellectual and moral education of those youth and children congregated in colleges, academies and schools,) it would seem becoming in a wise and patriotic Legislature to make some appropriation from a fund so collected, for the benefit of emigrants and seamen.

In order to render this appropriation effectual should it be made, it is proposed not to place the prints in question on board of any boat or vessel, unless the commander shall approve the measure and take the charge of the same, with an express understanding that he will, on some suitable occasion, from time to time, exhibit the same, and cause the accompanying explanation to be read to those under his command.

These prints have been productive of great good on the land, and could they be brought before the eye of the 50,000 emigrants coming annually to our shores, the 40,000 seamen arriving at and departing from our sea ports, and the 70,000 citizens employed on our canals and other inland waters, who can estimate the good that would probably result to them, and to the republic from such a measure.